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OPENING STATEMENT OF CHAIRMAN JAMES H. MORRISON, CIVIL SERVICE SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE HOUSE POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE, AT HEARINGS ON
LEGISLATION TO MODERNIZE ALLOWANCES AND DIFFERENTIALS, AND TO PROVIDE
ADEQUATE HEALTH AND MEDICAL FACILITIES, FOR UNITED STATES CITIZENS
EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN OVERSEAS AREAS - JUNE 10, 1959

The Civil Service Subcommittee this morning begins hearings on H.R. 5007, H. R. 5099, H. R. 5178, and H. R. 5238. H. R. 5007 and H. R. 5099 are bills to improve the administration of overseas activities of the Government by providing adequate allowances, differentials, and related benefits for American citizens employed abroad by our Government. H. R. 5178 and H. R. 5238 are bills to provide for health and medical services for civilian employees in Government overseas and their dependents.

The Subcommittee first will consider the overseas differentials and allowances legislation and, upon conclusion of the testimony on those bills, will proceed with consideration of the bills to provide overseas medical and health facilities.

This will complete the three-part overseas employee program of the Civil Service Subcommittee which was initiated in the 84th Congress. The first part of the program -- the establishment of an appropriate system of pay and administration for our overseas dependents schools -- will be completed when the House approves S. 96, which our Committee reported on May 14, 1959.

The bills before the Subcommittee today, as in the case of the overseas teachers legislation, were developed through extensive hearings and conferences and by the Subcommittee during the 84th Congress, as part of a continuing cooperative study by the Subcommittee, the Department of Defense, the State Department, and the Personnel Adviser to the President. These bills, when approved, will place in effect virtually all of the recommendations which were approved unanimously by the Post Office and Civil Service Committee and printed in House Report No. 2109, 84th Congress.

The report is at each Member's desk. With respect to the report, a letter to the Committee from The White House dated August 24, 1956, had this to say:

"I would like to say first that this was an excellent report, carefully prepared and reflecting a comprehensive review of the facts, both in the overseas hearings and in the staff research. I believe that the liaison between your office and both my White House office and the Civil Service Commission has been a fine example of cooperative effort between Legislative and Executive branches of Government, in developing sound legislation in this field of personnel administration."

H. R. 5007 and H. R. 5099 will establish, for the first time, a reasonably uniform and modern system of differentials, allowances, and benefits for United States citizens who are engaged in carrying out our critical overseas programs. While most of the employees concerned are in the Department of Defense and the Department of State, all other departments and agencies are covered as well.

This legislation consolidates into one Act provisions now found in a number of separate laws, in order to provide a single, continuing, and uniform authority for allowances, differentials, and other benefits in foreign areas. It will provide the basis for more effective and equitable administration of these benefits. It will make available to employees of other departments and agencies certain benefits now available to personnel of the Foreign Service and of other agencies which follow the Foreign Service system.

This legislation is based upon, and will place in effect, an official recommendation submitted by the Secretary of Defense as a part of the President's legislative program for this Congress. In order to conserve time, I will not go into the detailed provisions of the bills; the departmental witnesses will develop these for the Subcommittee. I do want to emphasize the fact that the legislation is extremely broad in scope and necessarily involves considerable complexity of language in view of the

ultimate purpose to provide a reasonably uniform and comprehensive system for all overseas activities of the Government. Some indication of the many problems that arise in the development and drafting of such legislation will be found in the Committee Print of H. R. 5007, on each Member's desk this morning. The language in italic print represents changes recommended, and agreed to on a tentative basis subject to our Committee action, since the introduction of the legislation. For convenience of reference, I will ask the witnesses to direct their remarks to H. R. 5007 and to the proposed changes shown in the Committee Print.

We will now proceed with consideration of H. R. 5007 and H. R. 5099. At the conclusion of the testimony on these bills, I will then present the overseas health and medical program bills for Subcommittee consideration at open hearings.

Our first witness will be the Honorable Stephen S. Jackson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Manpower, Personnel and Reserve. Without objection, there will be inserted in the record, immediately following the testimony of Secretary Jackson, letters in support of this legislation from the Department of State, The Librarian of Congress, and the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, as well as the report of the Comptroller General of the United States.

Secretary Jackson.

LIST OF WITNESSES AT HEARING ON H. R. 5007 AND H. R. 5099, BILLS TO IMPROVE
THE ADMINISTRATION OF OVERSEAS ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES

June 10, 1959

HONORABLE STEPHEN S. JACKSON, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense,
Manpower, Personnel and Reserve,

accompanied by

MR. EDWARD A. SOMPAYRAC, Office of Civilian Personnel Policy, Office
of the Assistant Secretary of Defense.

MR. WILLIAM L. ELLIS, Assistant Director, Administrative Office of the
United States Courts.

MR. RUTHERFORD D. ROGERS, Chief Assistant Librarian of Congress

MR. JOHN S. WARNER, Legislative Counsel, Central Intelligence Agency,

accompanied by

STAT , Assistant General Counsel, Central
Intelligence Agency

Members of Subcommittee

Mr. Morrison, Chairman

Mr. Porter	Mr. Broyhill
Mr. Foley	Mr. Gross
Mr. Harmon	Mr. Barry